

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-17 and 19-36 are pending. Claims 25-36 have been previously withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claims 37 and 38 are cancelled, and claims 1, 10, 13, 19, and 21-24 are amended.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the Amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the Final Rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Reconsideration based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. The Election/Restriction Requirement

The Office Action states that a complete reply to the Final Rejection must include cancellation of non-elected claims or other appropriate action. Applicants will await cancellation of the non-elected claims until after allowance of the elected apparatus claims so as to have the opportunity to rejoin the non-elected claims.

II. The Claims Satisfy All Formal Requirements

The Office Action objects to claim 19 based on informalities. Claim 19 is amended to obviate this objection. Withdrawal of the objection to claim 19 is respectfully requested.

III. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-17, 19, 21-24, 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Greer (U.S. Patent No. 5,470,787) in view of Kataoka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,001,488);

and claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Greer in view of Kataoka, and further in view of Kitayama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,744,382). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Greer, whether alone or in combination with the other applied references, does not disclose or suggest the semiconductor device of claim 1 or 13, the circuit board of claim 21 or 22, and the electronic instrument of claim 23 or claim 24 in which, *inter alia*, external terminals are electrically connected to the interconnect pattern, each of the external terminals not overlapping with any one of the electrodes.

Instead, Greer, for example, discloses an external terminal 42 overlapping the electrode 22.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-17 and 19-36 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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